

Please replace the first full paragraph on page 2 with the following paragraph:

D²
--PCT publication number WO98/18930 published May 7, 1998, entitled
"Streptococcus pneumoniae antigens and vaccines" describes certain
polypeptides which are claimed to be antigenic. However, no biological activity of these
polypeptides is reported.--

Please replace the first full paragraph on page 35 with the following paragraph:

D³
--The DNA probes of this invention may also be used for detecting circulating
streptococcus, i.e., *S. pneumoniae* nucleic acids in a sample, for example using a
polymerase chain reaction, as a method of diagnosing streptococcus infections. The
probe may be synthesized using conventional techniques and may be immobilized on a
solid phase, or may be labeled with a detectable label. A preferred DNA probe for this
application is an oligomer having a sequence complementary to at least 6 contiguous
nucleotides of the *Streptococcus pneumoniae* of the invention.--

IN THE CLAIMS:

✓
Please cancel claim 17 in its entirety and without prejudice.

Please amend claims 16, 18-20 and 25 as follows.

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D⁴
~~Claim 16 (Amended). An isolated polypeptide having at least 95% identity with a
second polypeptide having an amino acid sequence of any one of SEQ ID NOs: 2, 4, 6,
8, 10, 14, 16, 55 to 75, 77 to 79, 81 or 83.~~